



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

City of San Diego
Planning & Development Review
Building Development Review
1222 First Avenue • MS-401
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 446-5400

Building Newsletter 17-7

Approval of Products,
Construction Materials
and Testing Laboratories

Interpretations of State and Local Building Codes
1998 California Building Code: Chapter 17
Revision Date: July 1999

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This building newsletter outlines the department's policies and requirements regarding the evaluation of construction materials and recognition of testing laboratories and quality control agencies.

I. Use Of Products In Building Construction

- A. The Planning and Development Review Department requires that construction materials, products and assemblies used in building construction be tested by an approved testing agency for conformance to standards provided in the California Building Code (Building Code) as adopted by the City of San Diego.
- B. The Department also requires that the products, equipment and assemblies be listed by a recognized and approved listing agency.
- C. The following are examples of recognized and approved listing agencies:

1. International Conference of Building Officials, (ICBO)

Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601-2298
(310) 699-0543
FAX: (310) 695-4694
Website: www.icbo.org

2. Underwriters Laboratories Inc., (UL)

1655 Scott Blvd.
Santa Clara, CA 95050-4169
(408) 985-2400
FAX: (408) 556-6000
Website: www.ul.com

3. Intertek Testing Services

70 Codman Hill Rd.
Boxborough, MA 01719
(978) 263-2662
FAX: (978) 263-7086
Website: www.itsqs.com

4. Factory Mutual (FM)

1151 Boston-Providence turnpike
P. O. BOX 9102
Norwood, MA
(781) 762-4300
FAX: (781) 762-9375
Website: www.factorymutual.com

II. Testing/Listing Services Evaluation Limitations

- A. The City of San Diego Planning and Development Review Department will not evaluate and/or approve the following:
1. Products, equipments and assemblies not listed by a recognized/approved listing agency.
 2. Testing laboratory for testing of work other than types of work requiring special inspection listed under the Building code, Section 1701.
 3. Quality Control Agency.
 4. Fabricators of prefabricated buildings and components. See Building Newsletter 17-6 "Off-site Fabrication of Building Components" for additional information.
- B. Requests for evaluation of products, equipments and assemblies must be referred to recognized/approved listing agencies. Examples of such agencies are listed above.

III. Work Requiring Structural Tests and Special Inspection and Materials Testing

- A. Construction work requiring special inspection per Building Code, Section 1701 must be performed by a special inspector or a Special Inspection Agency certified by Inspection Services Division of the Planning and Development Review Department.
- B. Construction work or materials requiring testing per the Building Code, must be performed by a construction materials testing laboratory approved by Inspection Services Division of the Planning and Development Review Department.
- C. A list of construction materials testing laboratories and special inspection agencies approved by this department is available from Inspection Services.
- D. For information regarding how to become an approved construction materials testing laboratory or a certified special inspector or a certified Special Inspection Agency contact the Inspection Services Division at (858) 492-5070.